

Minutes of Water Advisory Committee
For Meeting of May 6, 2002

Attendees:

Toni Bertolero, City of Cotati
Steve Simmons, City of Petaluma
Tom Hargis, City of Petaluma
Pam Torliatt, City of Petaluma
Mike Ban, City of Petaluma
Syed Rizvi, North Marin Water District
Chris DeGabriele, North Marin Water District
Miles Ferris, City of Santa Rosa
Virginia Porter, City of Santa Rosa
Mike Martini, City of Santa Rosa
Dave Pinsky, City of Santa Rosa
Jane Bender, City of Santa Rosa
Randy Poole, Sonoma County Water Agency
Kiergan Pegg, Sonoma County Water Agency
Pam Jeane, Sonoma County Water Agency
George Roberts, Forestville Water District
Mark Bramfitt, Valley of the Moon Water District
Lee Harry, Valley of the Moon Water District
Steve Phelps, Marin Municipal Water District
Pam Nicolai, Marin Municipal Water District
Ron Theisen, Marin Municipal Water District
Matt Mullan, Town of Windsor
Jake MacKenzie, City of Rohnert Park

Public Attendees:

Bob Anderson, United Winegrowers
Gerry Nakano, West Yost and Associates
Terence M. Garvey
Don McEnhill, League of Women Voters
Geoffrey Cartwright
Jo Timmsen, Tell the Truth
Brenda Adelman, Russian River Watershed Protection Committee

A. Call to Order

Miles Ferris, City of Santa Rosa, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

B. Introductions

The attendees made introductions.

C. Approval of April 8 2002 Minutes

Chris DeGabriele, North Marin Water District, speaking for John Nelson, WRM, who could not attend the meeting that day, suggested two changes to the minutes on pages 5 and 6. Mr. DeGabriele then made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Mike Martini, City of Santa Rosa. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

D. Public Comment

Geoff Cartwright read an article from 'The Press Democrat,' and reiterated his suggestion of interim study districts.

E. Review/Approve Framework Issues List

Mr. DeGabriele passed out a copy of the Framework Issues, and a key showing how the "List of 56" and "Changes Recommended by Public" are dealt with by WAC's "Framework List of Issues." He suggested that the Water Policy Subcommittee could make the key into a checklist. It was the general opinion among the contractors that a chart or simple cross-reference be available for the public at the workshop. Pam Torliatt, City of Petaluma, said that a list of upcoming SCWA projects with an accompanying location map, also be made available at the workshop. The contractors also thought that the List of 56 should be included as a handout at the workshop.

Regarding the format of the workshop, Mr. Ferris said he thought the moderator should facilitate discussion between the public and the contractors. Matt Mullan, Town of Windsor, said the success of the workshop will depend greatly on the format with which the information is presented, and he favored a simple approach.

There was much discussion of item II, under Basic Agreement Concepts, which deals with the funding of new improvements by contractors without the agreement of all the parties. Some contractors felt that the language did not accurately reflect their opinions. Ms. Torliatt thought the issue should be divided up into three separate parts: voting requirements, negotiation of side agreements by contractors, and a mechanism to enable contractors to not participate and be able to come back and participate in the agreements. Pam Nicolai, Marin Municipal Water District, thought that references to WAC voting requirements be taken out so that the public didn't get the impression that the issue had already been decided on by the contractors.

Jake MacKenzie, City of Rohnert Park, made a motion to change the language of item II to make a clear delineation of options without reference to current WAC voting arrangements and Mr. Martini seconded the motion. Mr. DeGabriele clarified by asking if the WAC members wanted to strike the words "A majority of," and modify the language to a discussion of alternatives regarding the issue itself. The motion was passed with Petaluma voting to oppose. Lee Harry, Valley of the Moon Water District, thought

that it was important that the public know the contractors had not decided on any of these issues, and they were still open for discussion.

F. Review/Approve Notice/Agenda for Workshop 4; May 23, 2002 in Novato

Mr. DeGabriele passed out a copy of the draft notice/agenda and went through it with the committee. Ms. Torliatt suggested better directions. Mr. Martini motioned to approve the notice with changes to the directions, and a different simplified chart or list as the handout. Mr. MacKenzie seconded, and the motion was passed unanimously.

G. Update from the Water Policy Review Subcommittee

Mr. Martini said at the last meeting, specific issues were discussed, and the members will request SCWA postpone the adoption of the new water policy. He said a meeting had been set up with County Supervisor Smith, who was willing to discuss postponing the agreement. The meeting was set for Thursday, May 9, at the County Administration Building at 4 p.m. Mr. Martini urged at least one representative from each contractor to attend, as the Supervisors expressed interest in hearing from the contractor's policy makers.

Ms. Torliatt made a motion that the WAC request a delay in adopting the new policy at least until the alternatives report and the section 7 biological assessment is made public. Mr. MacKenzie seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.

H. Host for WAC comment page on the Internet

Kiergan Pegg, Sonoma County Water Agency, said the Agency would no longer host the web page for the WAC comments to be posted. He said there were several alternatives, including another organization host the page, asking John Nelson to maintain it or doing away with it all together. Jo Timmsen, Tell the Truth, said the public needed to have access to general documents, and Ms. Jeane said all public documents are available from the Agency. Mr. Cartwright urged that the page be continued, as it is also part of public record. Ms. Jeane said that an outside agency could be paid to host the site and Mr. Nelson could maintain it.

I. Draft Info on Residential per capita use

Mr. DeGabriele passed out a chart prepared by John Nelson showing the estimated per capita use by each contractor. Mr. Harry thought that the information was not accurate as it did not present complete information and depended too much on questionable demographics. The number of people per household did not equate with summer irrigation water use. Ms. Torliatt requested a chart showing more information, such as water rates, annual cost, etc. Mr. Martini said that a point in the negotiations of

the proposed new agreement should be that during drought, cutting use back to a certain point, not a percentage to address demand hardening. Mr. DeGabriele advised that the contractors get their comments on the unit use comparison to Mr. Nelson.

J. Status Report on Active Projects

Mr. Poole said the pumps and motors for Collector 1 would be installed in June, the Kawana Springs pipeline is underway, the adoption of the environmental document is in progress for the Eldridge Madrone project and the environmental process is underway for the South Transmission Project. Ms. Jeane said installation of emergency generators is ongoing at Ely Booster Station. Mr. Poole said Collector 6 is estimated to be up and running in summer of 2004.

Mr. Poole also told the committee that the Agency, along with the Open Space District was purchasing a former gravel mine along the Russian River from Hanson Building Materials of America. He said the property could be used as supply later for citing water supply facilities.

K. Other Business

Mr. Ferris told the committee there is legislation in progress that would give control of groundwater to the State Water Resources Control Board. He also said that the state of California deficit is so severe that he thinks cost of services to municipalities and special districts such as DHS and RWQCB fees will be increased as a way to eradicate some of the debt and to fund projects.

L. Items for the Next Agenda

There were no items for the next agenda at this time.

M. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

DISTRIBUTION:

Brenda Adelman, RRWPC
Bob Anderson, United Winegrowers
Joyce Arnold, North Marin Water District
Mike Ban, City of Petaluma
Al Bandur, City of Sonoma

Jake Mackenzie, City of Rohnert Park
Caroline Marker, City of Healdsburg
Mike Martini, City of Santa Rosa
Bill Massey, Forestville Water District
Matt Mullan, Town of Windsor

Jane Bender, City of Santa Rosa
Paul Berlant, Town of Windsor
Toni Bertolero, City of Cotati
Jo Timmsen, Tell the Truth
Janice Cader-Thompson, City of Petaluma
Geoff Cartwright
Gail Chavez, City of Santa Rosa
Colin Close, City of Santa Rosa
Chris DeGabriele, North Marin Water District
Jim Downey, Penngrove/Kenwood Water
Noreen Evans, City of Santa Rosa
Miles Ferris, City of Santa Rosa
Jim Flugum, City of Healdsburg
Joe Gaffney, City of Rohnert Park
Jack Gibson, Marin Municipal Water District
Tom Hargis, City of Petaluma
Lee Harry, Valley of the Moon Water District
Pam Jeane, Sonoma County Water Agency
David Keller
Ruth Langridge
Rose Leppert
Robert Brownwood, California Dept. Health Services
Kiergan Pegg, Sonoma County Water Agency
Eve Perezselsky, Sonoma County Water Agency
Krishna Kumar, Sonoma County Water Agency
Ellen Dowling, Sonoma County Water Agency
Tim Anderson, Sonoma County Water Agency

Gerry Nakano, West Yost
John Nelson, Water Resources Management
Joe Netter, City of Rohnert Park
Steve Phelps, Marin Municipal Water District
Dave Pinsky, City of Santa Rosa
Randy Poole, Sonoma County Water Agency
Virginia Porter, City of Santa Rosa
Diane Reilly Torres
Syed Rizvi, North Marin Water District
George Roberts, Forestville Water District
Bill Robertson, City of Healdsburg
Dana Roxon, Marin Municipal Water District
Dale Shaddox, City of Cotati
Steve Simmons, City of Petaluma
Fred Stouder, City of Petaluma
Ron Theisen, Marin Municipal Water District
Pam Torliatt, City of Petaluma
Dell Tredinnick, City of Santa Rosa
John Wanger, City of Cloverdale
Renee Webber, Sonoma County Water Agency
Dave Willer, Valley of the Moon Water District
Michael Burgess, California Dept of Health Services
Diane Lesko, City of Santa Rosa
Pam Nicolai, Marin Municipal Water District
Jay Jasperse, Sonoma County Water Agency
Armando Flores, City of Rohnert Park